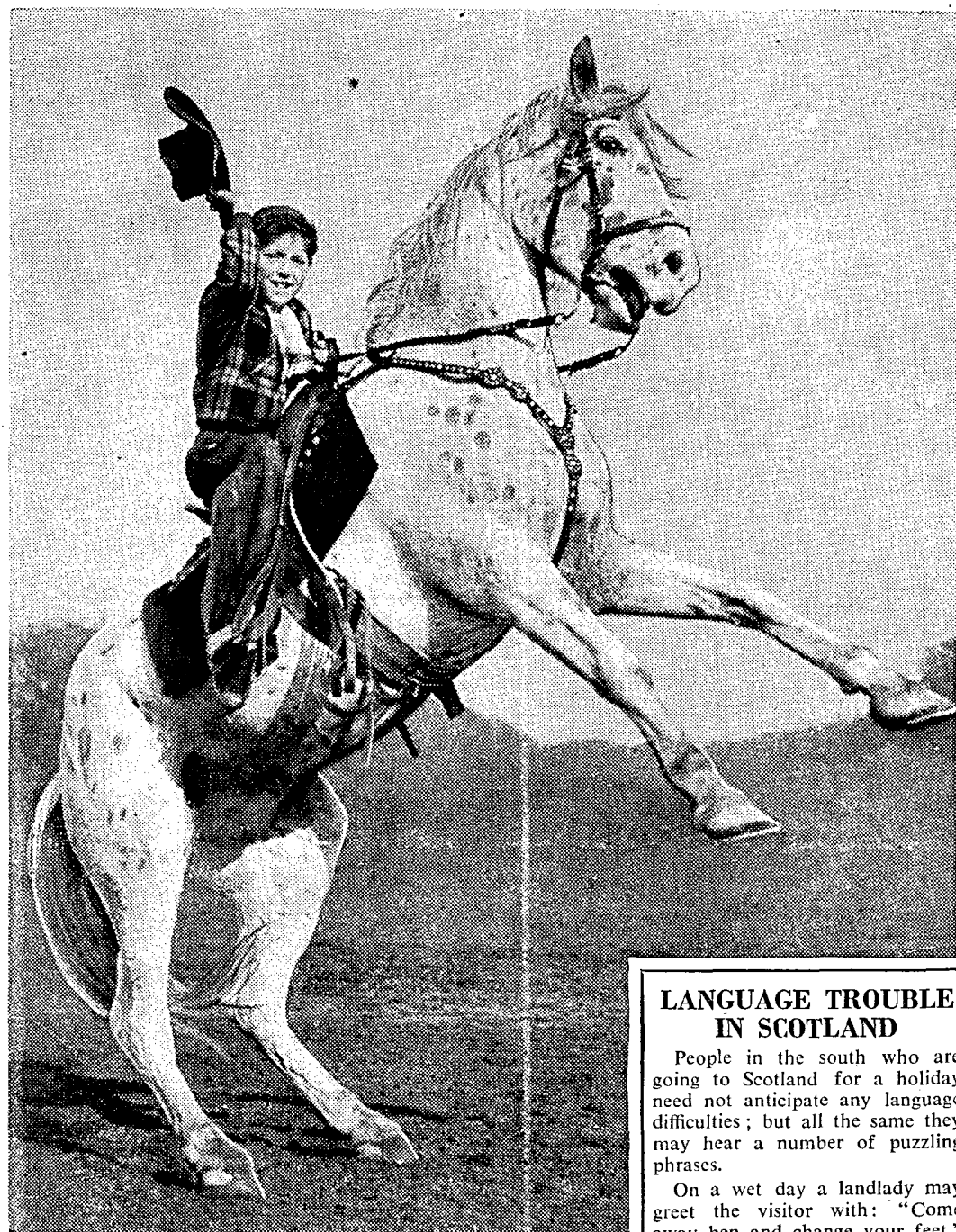


Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No. 1728, May 3, 1952



Ride him, Cowboy!

This young man on his prancing steed will be in Ranch in the Rockies, a new show in London this summer. He is 12-year-old Albert Wadham of Harlow, Essex.

THERE IS STILL TREASURE TO BE FOUND

A best-seller in Florida at present is a map showing the position of various pirate treasures believed to have been buried or sunk just off the coast. Many people spend their holidays treasure-hunting in this region. A few, indeed, have actually discovered small amounts of treasure trove.

One local fisherman, however, counts himself the unluckiest of them all. While fishing off the Miami coast he fell asleep and his boat drifted onto a reef, fortunately without being damaged.

Getting into the shallow water to push the boat off again, he stepped on some bars of metal.

Thinking they would make useful ballast, he threw a few of them into the boat and forgot them.

Two years later, when he was giving the boat a thorough overhaul, he found these metals bars in the bow locker. They felt almost as heavy as lead, so he decided to melt them down to cast into fishing weights.

However, when he cut them up to put them in the melting-pot they did not look like lead, and a friend suggested that he should get them assayed. They proved to be pure silver.

Despite a frantic search, he has never found that same reef again!

LANGUAGE TROUBLE IN SCOTLAND

People in the south who are going to Scotland for a holiday need not anticipate any language difficulties; but all the same they may hear a number of puzzling phrases.

On a wet day a landlady may greet the visitor with: "Come away ben and change your feet," meaning change your shoes and stockings. If at tea she remarks that she had "to fall back on a cutting loaf," she means she has no new bread; and if she asks, "Is your cup out?" she means, is it empty.

It would also be puzzling to hear her daughter say: "How can I make a shed when Wee Jeannie won't stand still?" A shed is a parting of the hair, difficult to create while little Jeannie is wriggling.

Most Southerners would be astonished, too, if asked, "Would you like a pig in your bed?" It simply means a stone hot-water bottle.

HOME TIES

In an exhibition of hobbies and crafts held at the Central Technical School, Sheffield, was a bedspread which a man of 76 had made at home from the ends of 1800 ties.

THE WORLD'S FIRST PHOTOGRAPH

Work of a little-known pioneer

THE first outdoor view ever taken with a camera has turned up after lying forgotten in a trunk for some 35 years, its owner having given it to a London photography collection. It is a photograph taken by the Frenchman Nicéphore de Niépce in 1826, nine years before the English pioneer, William Henry Fox Talbot, made his first negative at Lacock Abbey in Wiltshire; and The Times recently related its history.

Niépce's photograph, which he called a heliograph, or sun-drawing, needed an exposure of eight hours! It was made on a pewter plate covered with a varnish consisting of a solution of asphaltum and oil of lavender. After the pewter plate's long exposure, it was developed in a mixture of oil of lavender and petroleum, and then fixed. It shows the courtyard of Niépce's house, as seen from his window, and it is still quite clear today.

William Fox Talbot is today recognised as the Father of modern photography, but to Nicéphore de Niépce must go the honour of the first successful use of a camera.

FORKED LIGHTNING ON THE FILM

Film-acting is full of snags for beginners. An unexpected one tripped up Peggy Cass, a young actress who has been appearing in her first Columbia film.

In her first scene she had to sit at a lunch table. She noticed that her fork was dull and began polishing it with her table napkin.

At once there was a yell of "Cut!" from the director, a "prop man" seized her fork and, to her amazement, sprayed it with wax. Silverware has to be kept dull, he explained, so that it does not make flashes of light on the film!

DICK'S DAY OUT

At Los Angeles, a chimpanzee named Dick, who weighs nine stone, escaped from the zoo and made a beeline for a golf course.

There he confronted an astonished young woman who was about to make a stroke. He seized the club from her hands and pushed her over.

Perhaps he intended to show her how to hit the ball, but just then a crowd of his pursuers arrived. He waved the club defiantly at them, and then amused himself by denting a few cars.

After he had knocked down three men, he grew tired of "golf" and climbed into the back of a car, where he lounged at his ease while he was driven back to his cage.

REGULAR VISITOR

Sheila is a black-and-white border collie, faithful guide-dog to a blind mistress who was recently in Warwick Hospital with a head injury.

Taken on a visit to hospital, Sheila could hardly be dragged away, and when back home tried to dig her way under the garden fence in an attempt to rejoin her mistress.

Then the matron at the hospital heard that Sheila was pining and gave special permission for her to spend every day at the hospital. So every morning, tail-wagging vigorously, she trotted down the ward to her mistress and then curled up on a blanket under the bed, ready no doubt to be of service whenever called upon.

A SOLDIER FIRST

He was born in 1765 at Chalon-sur-Saône, and when he was 27 became an officer in the French infantry. He fought in Sardinia and Italy, but had to leave the Army because of bad eyesight—a curious weakness in a pioneer of photography. Then, retiring to his estate at St.-Loup-de-Varenne, he devoted himself to what was called "heliography."

It is not the first time that an inventor has been neglected by history; but in Niépce's case the neglect is probably due to his association with the better-known Louis Daguerre. Unknown to Niépce, Daguerre was working on the same lines, and after a mutual friend had introduced them, they continued to make further experiments together.

In 1833 Niépce died suddenly, but his collaborator went on to win fame as the inventor of the daguerreotype, the photograph on metal which so surprised and delighted our great-great-grandparents.

These were the first photographs made on a large scale, but they were made obsolete by the great developments which William Fox Talbot made in the new art.

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CAN GERMANY BE UNITED ONCE MORE?

By the C.N. Diplomatic Correspondent

RUSSIA and the Western Powers have been exchanging notes on how Germany can be made a complete nation again. What, in short, is the best way to unite a country which the last war left split into two distinct parts?

All the countries concerned, not least Germany herself, believe that the re-uniting of the separated zones is an essential step in the progress towards a really peaceful world.

But the efforts to get agreement on the methods of achieving this have raised the greatest difficulties, and—surprising though it may seem—bitter suspicion all round.

Last September, Herr Grotewohl, the East German Prime Minister, a mild and persuasive statesman, suggested as important the need for all-German elections, that is, elections in which the two sections of the country would take part together.

GUARDED REPLY

Dr. Adenauer, the Chancellor of the West German Government, to whom the offer was made, was very careful in replying, because he knew that Herr Grotewohl was not a free agent but controlled by the Soviet rulers who had helped to make Eastern Germany Communist and Totalitarian.

The difficulty was—and is—to get elections that are really free—elections in which both the East and West sections of the country would have a fair chance of getting a democratic government.

So Dr. Adenauer made a number of conditions, and laid down the need for international supervision of elections throughout Germany. He also wrote to the Western Powers and urged that an international Commission should be set up by the United Nations to find out whether conditions in both East and West Germany were suitable for free elections.

The United Nations then appointed a Commission represented by unbiased countries outside the dispute. These countries were Iceland, the Netherlands, Pakistan, and Brazil.

OPPOSING VIEWS

The Western Powers and Russia, who have been in control of Germany since the war, had opposing views on the investigation.

Britain, America, and France, for the West, gave it their blessing; Russia would have nothing to do with it. Therefore the Commission was free to go into Germany's Western republic but was barred from the Communist Eastern Zone.

The whole situation looked like stalemate until Russia recently began a further exchange of notes with the West. She insists that a Commission of the kind appointed by the U.N. is contrary to the United Nations' Charter, which actually supports her view that the proper body to investigate conditions in both parts of Germany are the occupying powers—Britain, America, France, and herself.

Now, though the Western countries are unwilling to lose any

real opportunity of uniting the German nation, they have had to consider whether their action might not result in the whole of Germany becoming the victim of Communisation and dictatorship.

There is also a feeling that Russia has bolted the East German door against the entry of the impartial Commission because she wants to hide the conditions there.

Western Germany on its part has accepted the U.N. Commission, which suggests that the conscience of Dr. Adenauer is clear.

Furthermore, it is suggested that Russia wants a committee of the Big Powers to do the investigating because her share in such a committee would prevent it from making decisions likely to loosen her powerful grip on Eastern Germany.

The re-opening of the problem by Russia may also indicate that she is getting worried by the progress made in building up a European Defence Community of which Western Germany would be a respected member.

Whether these suspicions be true or false must clearly be determined by Russia's future actions. If Russia really wants to allow Germany to be united again under a freely-elected government, the prospects would be bright.

First outing



Minnie, the brown bear at London Zoo, keeps an eye on her twin offspring as they make their first public appearance.

HISTORIC PAPERS COME TO LIGHT

A collection of 3000 rare documents of the utmost historic importance has been discovered in a small town in America. It includes letters signed by Tudor monarchs, papers which shed new light on the early colonisation of America, and two letters by Columbus, written in Latin.

The collection, a gift from two women of Southport, Connecticut, had lain unheeded in the local library for 60 years. Now it is being studied at Yale University.



By the C.N. Press Gallery Correspondent

WHEN the Liberal chief whip, Mr. Joseph Grimond, remarked recently: "I am at best a small, clogged, and most unusual channel," he was only pointing out that he is not a "usual channel" in the Parliamentary sense.

Each political party has its whips; the managers of its domestic business in Parliament. And the whips of the Government party and of the official Opposition meet behind the scenes every week to discuss the following week's timetable and various other matters.

These M.P.s are the "usual channels" through whom Commons business is arranged. As the chief whip of the smallest party, Mr. Grimond is not necessarily consulted, though he can be. "Small and unusual though I may be," he says, "I have always been treated with courtesy."

One of the charms of Parliament is that, however acrimonious its debates, the civilities are preserved through these consultations.

At first sight, the following dialogue reads as if the Minister concerned has changed his mind on the spur of the moment:

Minister: Now let me turn to a new tax.

M.P.: Will the hon. gentleman give way?

Minister: Yes—all right.

Unfortunately, to "give way" during a Parliamentary debate merely means to allow another speaker to interrupt, usually to ask a question or correct a mistaken impression.

THIS column has more than once recorded the amazing ease with which the Speaker and officers of the Commons memorise the names of more than 600 M.P.s. Less certain are some M.P.s.

"My memory for the faces of hon. gentlemen opposite," said Dr. Edith Summerskill, "is greater than my memory for their constituencies."

Report from Parliament can sympathise with her, especially since the redistribution of seats came into force at the 1950 election. For, in debate, M.P.s are referred to by their constituencies and not by their names.

FIRST M.P.: Now I come finally . . . I have been rather a long time . . . (He breaks off as other M.P.s urge him to "go on") . . . My hon. friends encourage me too much . . .

He continues for another five minutes, then:

First M.P.: I should like to say one thing in conclusion . . .

Second M.P.: The hon. Member has come to his conclusion before.

First M.P. (blandly): Then I will sum up!

AND so, to sum up, here is a cautionary saying by Viscount Stansgate for your notebook: *It is so easy, when one is interested in something, to get a little short-tempered.*

News From Everywhere

SHORT OF SHEPHERDS

President Truman has signed a special Bill permitting the entry of 500 alien shepherds to the United States to ease the national scarcity.

Proposals for a 135-mile footpath along the north coast of Cornwall have been approved. Local authorities will make 45 miles of the new path.

Experts contemplate giving the foundations of the Leaning Tower at Pisa, Italy, another injection of liquid cement to stem its collapse, which engineers calculate will occur in about 400 years' time at the present rate of decline.

REVOLUTIONARY

The revolving stage at Odense, in Copenhagen, suddenly began to whirl round when it was supposed to stay put. It had to be worked by hand for the rest of the evening.

Renovation of the White Horse carved in the chalk hillside at Uffington, Berks, is being carried out by the Ministry of Works.

A hydro-electric, irrigation, and flood prevention scheme in Northern Queensland, plans for which have been tabled in the Queensland Parliament, would entail the construction of a dam to hold nearly 16 times as much water as Sydney Harbour.

SWORDS INTO PLOUGHSHARES

The Vicar of Liskeard, Cornwall, did some ploughing on Bolitho Farm with a ploughshare made from two swords, one of which he had used as a cavalry officer in the First World War.

A candidate gallantly voted for his opponent in a municipal election in California—and lost by one vote.

A recent survey has shown that 12 per cent of London's bus travellers put their tickets in the "used" boxes, 24 per cent throw them on the floor, 10 per cent drop them in the street, and the other 54 per take them home.

EARLY BIRD

For the second year in succession the blackbird's song was the earliest to be heard in the dawn chorus by listeners at 400 stations throughout Britain. The bird was heard at 3.50 a.m. (G.M.T.) at Hoyland, Yorks.

The Boys' Brigade are holding their display at the Royal Albert Hall on Friday, May 2, at 8 p.m., and on Saturday, May 3, at 3.30 and 7.30. Tickets from London Secretary, Abbey House, Westminster, S.W.1.

Manchester City Hall has been thronged with visitors to the Northern Radio and Television Exhibition—open until May 3.

The lion carved in the chalk of Dunstable Downs is to be illuminated in celebration of the 21st anniversary of Whipsnade Zoo this year.

Merthyr Tydfil, Glamorganshire, with a rate of 28s. for 1952-1953 has the highest rate of the 83 county boroughs in England and Wales. Bournemouth's 14s. is the lowest.

ROCKET SHIP

Test flights for delivering mail by rockets are to be held by Germans on the North Sea coast.

The remains of Louis Braille, inventor of the alphabet for the blind, will be transferred on June 22 to the Panthéon, in Paris, where so many of his distinguished compatriots are buried.

The Federal Communications Commission is to allow an eventual total of 2053 television stations to be operated in the United States. There are at present only 108.

Sixteen apprentices from Halifax, Yorks, are to spend a week in workshops at Aachen to gain a knowledge of German training methods.

LINK WITH BUNYAN

The Moot Hall at Elstow, Bedfordshire, intimately connected with the life of John Bunyan, has been equipped and opened as a permanent centre to illustrate English life and traditions of the 17th century.

Painted Lady butterflies from North Africa are invading Britain in exceptionally large numbers.

Fine seamanship which enabled men of the Coverack, Cornwall, lifeboat to rescue the crew of the Spanish coaster Mina Cantiquin last November has been recognised by the gift of seven silver medals from the Spanish Lifeboat Association.

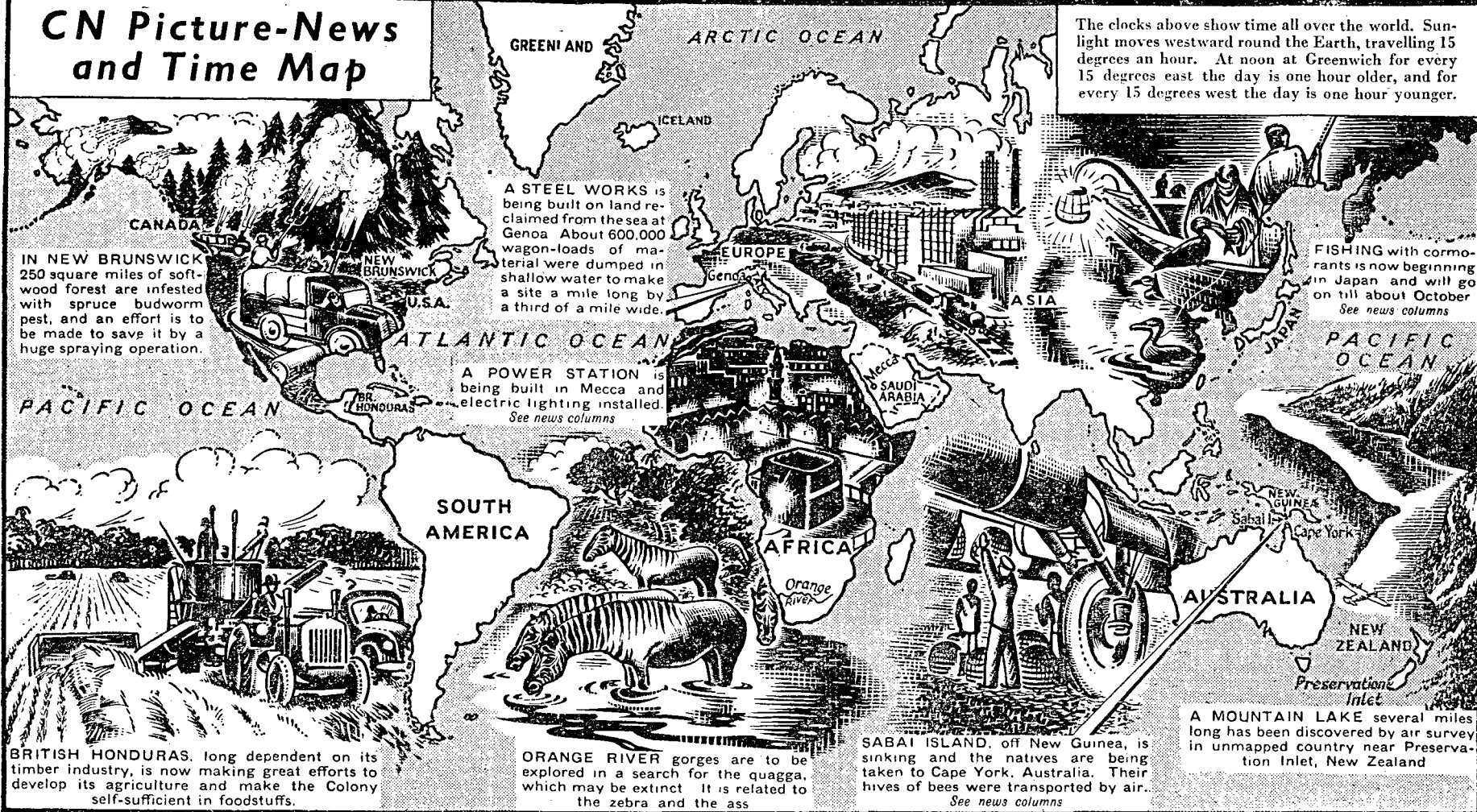
Something to TREASURE

The **UNIQUE** **PEN** *of course!*

With years of trouble-free writing ahead, and no expensive replacements, a "Unique" pen is undoubtedly a treasure—and at a price you can afford.

With two tone steel nib 4/8 and 6/9 inc. Tax.
With 14ct. gold nib 10/9, 13/6, 16/6, and 19/- inc. Tax.

CN Picture-News and Time Map



YOUNG INVENTOR IN THE KITCHEN

When he was a boy, television pioneer John Logie Baird fixed up a miniature hydro-electric plant in his home, working its dynamo from a tap at the kitchen sink! A plaque commemorating him has now been fixed to the wall of this house (his birthplace) at Helensburgh, Dunbartonshire.

This house was the first in the town to have a telephone—young Baird ran one to his friend's house across the road.

Baird was educated at the Royal Technical College and Glasgow University, but he went south and began his television experiments at Hastings. Then he moved to London, and there, in 1925, made the world's first television transmission from one room to another. He died in 1946.

BEES GO TOO

Sabai Island, off the coast of southern New Guinea, is slowly sinking beneath the surface of the sea. Not only are the natives being moved off the island, but their bees are going with them.

A transport plane was used recently to carry 15,000 bees, in hives, to a new settlement for the islanders at Cape York, the northerly tip of Australia. Bees already in this area are almost useless for purposes of pollination, so the domestic bees from Sabai are welcome newcomers for fertilising the blossom of fruit trees.

See World Map

FISHING WITH BIRDS

In Japan the practice of fishing at night, not by means of nets or lines, but with the aid of cormorants, has been resumed since the war, and the present season is in full swing.

This method is shown in very early Japanese drawings and prints. The fishermen still go out on the lakes and rivers with 15 to 20 cormorants in each boat, and with a flaring brazier hanging out over the water as a decoy for the fish.

But one difference is that in these days the brazier is often replaced by an electric bulb run by a battery.

The cormorants have collars round their necks with reins

attached, enabling them to be controlled from the boat. A bird dives into the water, catches a number of fish, and then comes to the surface, where it swims until it is drawn into the boat by one of the fishermen. The fish are removed from the cormorant's mouth and it then returns to the water for a further haul.

Cormorant fishing is by no means a purely Asiatic practice, for early in the 17th century it was popular in England, and James I was so keen on the sport that he appointed a Master of Cormorants, who was in charge of the royal birds used for fishing.

See World Map

PRIZE FOR CHEESE

New Zealand's best cheese-makers are competing for a 170-guinea silver tea and coffee service which is a new prize at the Waikato Winter Show at Hamilton.

This show ranks among the world's greatest dairy shows, so the man who wins the new trophy may regard himself as one of the world's best makers of cheese.

New Zealand is now the world's largest exporter of cheese, and Britain's chief supplier. Something like 100,000 tons of New Zealand cheddar cheese comes to Britain every year.

The first cheese-makers in New Zealand were West of England farmers who emigrated over a century ago. They took with them the art of making cheese for which Cheddar is famous.

PICKWICK PAPERS ON THE SCREEN

The immortal Mr. Pickwick is to make his bow in a sound film. Renown Pictures are to start making it next week at Walton-on-Thames.

A brilliant assembly of British comedians has been recruited. Veteran comedian George Robey has been persuaded to take the part of Tony Weller, and the impudent, witty Sam is to be played by Harry Fowler, who scored a great success in the film *I Believe in You*.

Beaming, bespectacled Mr. Pickwick himself is to be played by James Hayter, and among other favourite fun-makers in the picture will be Gerald Campion, Television's Billy Bunter, as the Fat Boy.

BOYS BUILD THEIR OWN LAUNCH

This summer two years' hard work will be rewarded when a party of lads from Moat Road Boys' School, Leicester, begin a month's trip to the Fens in a motor launch they have constructed themselves.

Named the Argo, it has been built from two Bailey bridge pontoons, and is powered by an eight h.p. car engine. It is 32 feet long, has two cabins, a galley, and when finally fitted out will have berths for eight. The boat's maximum speed is ten knots.

Apart from navigation and seamanship training, the boys will carry out marine and biological research in the Fen district under their captain, Mr. F. E. Johnson, a science master at the school. He hopes eventually to take the Argo up the River Granta as far as Cambridge.

MECCA SWITCHES ON

Modern electric lighting is being taken to the ancient city of Mecca, foremost centre of pilgrimage for Moslems.

The mosques and holy places, as well as streets and shops, will be lit by electricity. Engineers from Britain are in charge of the construction of the power station which is outside the city walls, but only followers of the prophet Mahomet may enter the city itself, so the work inside the city is in charge of a Moslem engineer from Pakistan.

See World Map

Please, Daddy,
I want
Cadburys!



He wants Cadburys Dairy Milk Chocolate—and he's right.

It has a lovely creamy taste, and that's why it's often saved specially for children. Everyone who likes milk chocolate says

‘Please . . . I want Cadburys!’



DRIVING OUT THE DEVIL

Every year, on April 30, the people of the Harz Mountains in Germany criticise their town officials for all they are worth.

Fortunately, the criticisms are in jest, being part of the Walpurgisnacht, a festival named after Saint Walpurga, who sailed from Sussex to Germany just over 1200 years ago to help her cousin St. Boniface in his missionary work.

Before the war, the celebrations always took place on top of the Brocken, the highest mountain in the Harz range, but this is now behind the Iron Curtain, and the celebrations are held in the nearby towns in the British zone.

IN CHARGE FOR A DAY

The ceremony begins with a man dressed as the devil, complete with skull cap and long black cape, riding into each town to take command for the rest of the day.

He "dismisses" the various officials, including even the Chief of Police, and proclaims that every day in future shall be a holiday, and that there will be no more taxes.

The devil is handed the keys of the town, but his reign is short-lived, for as the clock strikes midnight, the May Queen and her escort arrive to drive out the devil, and the community resumes its normal life.

The custom is comparable to May Day celebrations in this country, and marks the going of winter and the coming of spring.



Finishing touches

A critical audience watches from the floor of the classroom as these young Londoners prepare pictures for the exhibition of schoolchildren's art to be held at the South London Art Gallery, Camberwell, from May 16 to June 6

IS THE SEAGULL GUILTY?

Is the seagull a farmer's friend or foe? This old question is now being asked with a new urgency. Farmers declare that the number of seagulls that follow the plough has increased greatly, and they fear that the birds are eating millions of earthworms every day.

If that is so it is important, for there is no better servant to the farmer than the earthworm. It helps to aerate and drain the soil, and above all it helps to make

humus which the soil must have if it is to maintain its fertility. Darwin showed that even on poor common land earthworms can enrich the surface with fine soil from their castings by as much as 16 tons an acre in a year.

And this year the Government hopes that farmers will plough up half-a-million more acres so that we can grow extra corn and other food for our livestock. Thus the seagulls have many new areas on which to feed, and if they do eat earthworms they will be robbing this tilled soil of fertility.

But is the gull really guilty? It is a protected bird and cannot be shot, without leave, so there is no prospect of it being killed in numbers for the crops to be examined, which would be a sure way of finding the answer.

In Hampshire the farmers have passed a resolution asking their national headquarters to take the matter up. Meanwhile, one of the farmers thinks he knows. Years ago, he says, he opened the crop of a dead seagull and found it full of wireworms, which are among the worst foes of all who till the land. In any event, he adds, seagulls contribute much to the fertility of the soil by their droppings.

Innocent or guilty, it is generally agreed that the graceful flight of seagulls as they follow the plough over the newly-furrowed earth is one of the gladdening sights of our countryside.

TEA-PICKING BY MACHINE

A machine which plucks tea leaves from the bushes has been tested in Ceylon. It looks rather like the box and rotating blades of a lawn-mower combined, except that the blades are edged with rubber.

Made by a London firm and called the Tarpen, this machine picks at more than twice the rate of the average hand picker; moreover, it does not bruise the leaves, as pickers often do.

COKE OF NORFOLK

Remembering one of England's most famous farmers

COKE OF NORFOLK is a name that shines brightly in the annals of British agriculture. As a young man of 24 he inherited an estate that was almost semi-desert; yet he turned it into such prosperous farmland that people came from distant countries to admire it, and there will be many who will honour his memory on May 4, the 200th anniversary of his birth.

Thomas William Coke, squire of Holkham, Norfolk, who was created Earl of Leicester when quite an old man, got the idea of farming his own land when a disgusted tenant refused to continue paying him five shillings an acre for the poor soil.

Coke, then aged 26, took over the barren expanse himself, though he knew nothing about agriculture.

A TRANSFORMATION

He got advice from neighbouring farmers, and the upshot was that he converted the impoverished land, which had but a few sheep and hardly any cattle, into a rich wheat-growing area, also abounding with flocks and herds.

Thus did Coke of Norfolk give a lead to the whole country—a lead which benefited all classes who depended on agriculture for their living.

For many years Thomas Coke represented his native county in Parliament, and there seemed to embody the very spirit of Norfolk. He appeared before George III in a broad-brimmed hat, shooting jacket, and long boots to present a petition in favour of granting in-

dependence to the American Colonies.

At first he refused to take a title. "Coke," said George IV to him one day, "if you do such and such a thing, I'll knight you!" and Coke used to declare that had such a threat been carried out he would have struck the sword from the king's hand.

But in the end he accepted an earldom, though he said it was only to please his family; that was in 1837, only five years before his death at the age of 91.

SAVED BY A BUTCHER

He was a forthright person, and his political principles once involved him in serious danger; he was attacked by an anti-Corn Law mob in Norwich, and was saved by a resourceful butcher, who let loose a bull among the crowd.

Coke was a bold rider, a great sportsman, and a man of great public spirit. He is remembered as a fine agriculturist, and visitors still go to see his memorial in Holkham Park—a column crowned by a wheat-sheaf and enriched with reliefs and corner figures of a sheep, an ox, a plough, and a drill.

POST-OFFICE STONES

South Africa has been celebrating its first European settlers, who arrived 300 years ago in Table Bay in three ships from Holland commanded by Jan van Riebeeck. The CN recently told the full story.

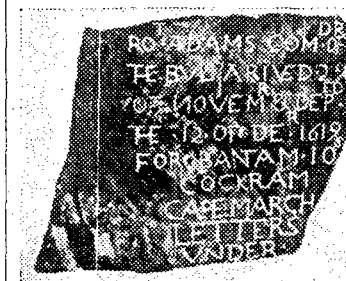
But although they were the first white settlers at the Cape, ships had been calling at the Bay for several years prior to this. Besides collecting refreshments there, outward-bound ships used to leave letters on the shore—under large stones on which were inscribed the name of the ship leaving the letters, the commander's name, and the dates of arrival and departure.

Other ships, homeward-bound, would collect the letters, usually sealed in waterproof covers, and carry them on to the addressees. Sometimes the letters told about the unfriendly natives; at other times they were merely records of voyages.

Several of these Post-Office Stones, as they came to be known,

are now on exhibition in the South African Museum at Cape Town.

The earliest Post-Office Stone found with an English inscription



was the one shown here; it was left by the 400-ton ship Bull in 1619.

A number of other inscribed stones have also been found at the Cape, but these were simply records of ships' visits and did not give any indication that they were covering letters, as the inscription "Letters under" did on the Post-Office Stones.

TWO BUCKETS IN A BOAT

The lives of four American fishermen have been saved by radar—and two old metal buckets.

Making a routine sweep of the sea about 30 miles from the Winter Quarter lightship, the skipper of the cargo vessel Isaac T. Mann was surprised to see spots on the screen indicating metal objects.

He decided to investigate, and found that the spots represented

two buckets on the seat of a lifeboat containing four exhausted men. They had taken to the boat when their trawler caught fire, and had neither food nor water.

America, country of cars, also has more bicycles on its roads than any other country—18½ million. Germany comes second with about 17 million, and Britain third with just under 11 million.

WOULD YOU LIKE A WONDERFUL PAINTING BOOK?

—ask Mummy to send 6 OXO CUBE WRAPPERS for yours

Yes, that's all you have to do to receive a lovely Road Safety Painting Book. And, that's not all — with each Painting Book will be details of a competition that you can enter. There are money prizes and many consolation prizes to be won.

But first you will need a Painting Book to find out all about this competition, and this is how to get one. Ask Mummy to save 6 complete silver foil wrappers from 1d. OXO Cubes and send them with just your name and address (in BLOCK LETTERS, please) in a sealed envelope, stamped 2d.

Address this to OXO Ltd. (Dept. PN), Thames House, London, E.C.4.

Even if you do not enter for the competition you will love to receive this Grand Painting Book.

Our offer is open until 31st August next, BUT START TO SAVE THE WRAPPERS NOW



Comet of the skyways—world's first jetliner service

By the CN Flying Correspondent

A NEW era in civil aviation is due to begin this Friday, heralded by the high-pitched whine of a quartet of jet engines. At London Airport, shortly before two o'clock, a Comet jet airliner, plumed in the silver, blue, and white of B.O.A.C. will taxi from the passenger embarkation point towards the end of the runway.

On the stroke of the hour it will race along the concrete runway, take-off, and begin a 35-minute climb upwards and upwards on the first leg of its run to South Africa. With stops at Rome, Beirut, Khartoum, Entebbe, and Livingstone, the 6724-mile journey to Johannesburg will be completed in only 23 hours 40 minutes.

AIRLINE operators and technicians everywhere will be watching this inaugural passenger-carrying flight of the world's first jetliner with keen interest, and not without envy. For the Comet is a plane that will in effect halve the size of the world by flying at twice the speed of existing airliners.

Not only does the Comet fly twice as fast as the other airliners, but it can carry twice as many passengers over a given time. Nine Comets could take as many passengers across the Atlantic in a year as the mighty Queen Elizabeth liner.

B.O.A.C. has ordered 20 of these fine aircraft, eleven of them Series 1 Comets with four Ghost turbojets, and nine Series 2 Comets, long-range models fitted with more powerful Rolls Royce Avons.

The Series 1 Comets carry 36 passengers and will be used on both the Springbok route to South Africa and the Kangaroo run to Australia; while the new Series 2 Comets seat 48 passengers and are

intended to fly on the important North Atlantic service.

LET us look inside one. Having climbed the passenger staircase, we reach the entry foyer. To the right of the foyer are dressing-rooms and toilets, and on our left is the wardrobe and entry to the 28-seat main cabin.

The colour scheme in the interior has been designed to meet a special purpose. At heights of 35,000 feet and more, the "blue" sky becomes a dark purple, owing to the absence of the dust particles which reflect light at lower altitudes. At 40,000 feet the brighter stars can sometimes be seen by day. So, as the Comet may be said to fly beneath a "bowl of night," the cabin ceilings and walls have been covered with light grey Vyanide to reflect the light coming up from the clouds below.

LET us next walk through the main cabin, past a drinking fountain and library, and into the

forward cabin which seats eight passengers.

Easing ourselves into the adjustable foam-rubber upholstered "slumberseats" and looking through the windows we can see the intakes of the jet engines in the wing roots below. The maximum horse-power produced by the four jets at sea level is about the same as the total horse-power of an Atlantic liner's turbines.

Each of the Ghost turbojets delivers 5000 lbs. of thrust; conventional piston engines developing an equivalent total power output would weigh as much as a complete Comet.

To obtain the utmost efficiency from the jets, the Comet cruises eight miles above the Earth in the thin upper air. The cabin is therefore pressurised to enable passengers and crew to breathe in comfort. For this purpose specially "thickened" air is tapped from the compressors of the engines. At 40,000 feet the "altitude" inside the cabin is equivalent to 8000 feet.

Forward of this small cabin is a compact galley and pantry, with an electric oven to heat pre-cooked meals, and a tip-up seat for the stewardess.

Opposite is the luggage and freight compartment, and then,

right in the nose, we find the Flight Deck. The Flight Crew on a Comet comprises a Captain, First Officer, Radio Officer, and Engineering Officer.

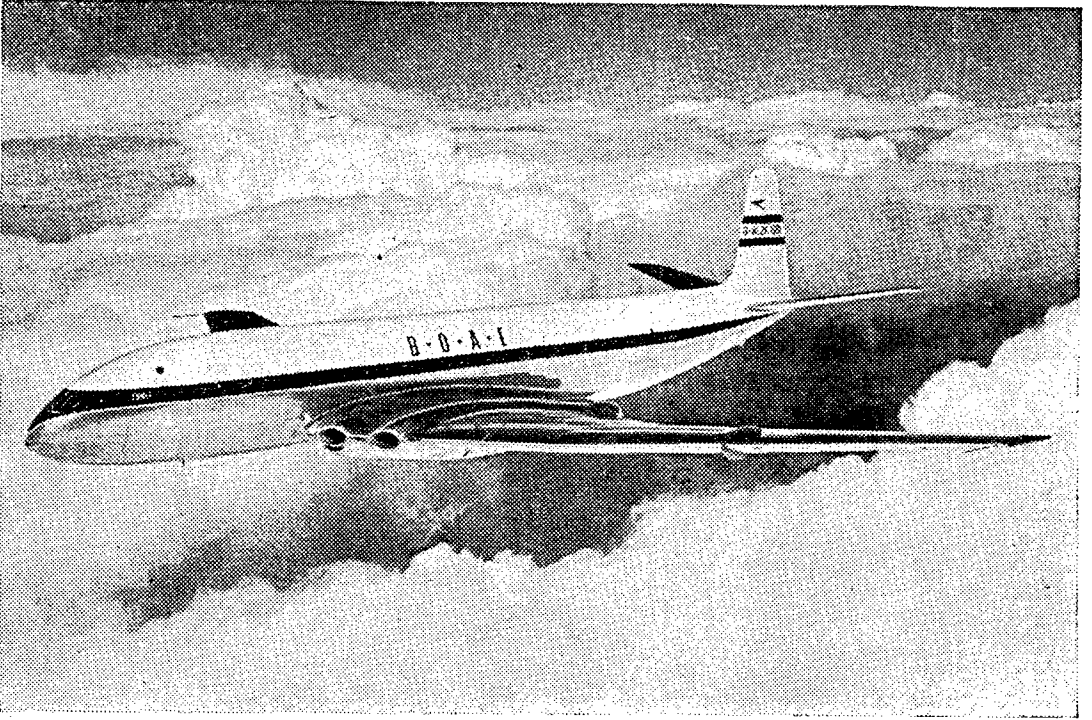
There are simple controls and remarkably few instruments.

As CN Flying Correspondent, I made a flight in the Comet recently and found its quietness and stability almost uncanny. At cruising height there is no sense of speed and no more sound than the

hum of a vacuum cleaner in the next room at home.

So complete is the absence of vibration that a threepenny-piece balanced on edge on a table just "stayed put," as steady as a rock. No other form of transport could possibly be more smooth and restful.

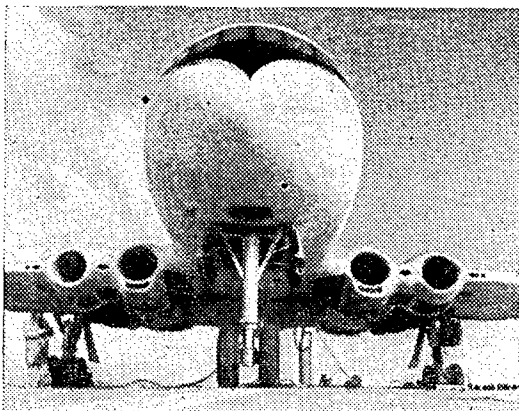
The De Havilland Comet seems to have made every other airliner obsolete, and we may justly be proud of it. It is indeed Britain's "Queen of the Air."



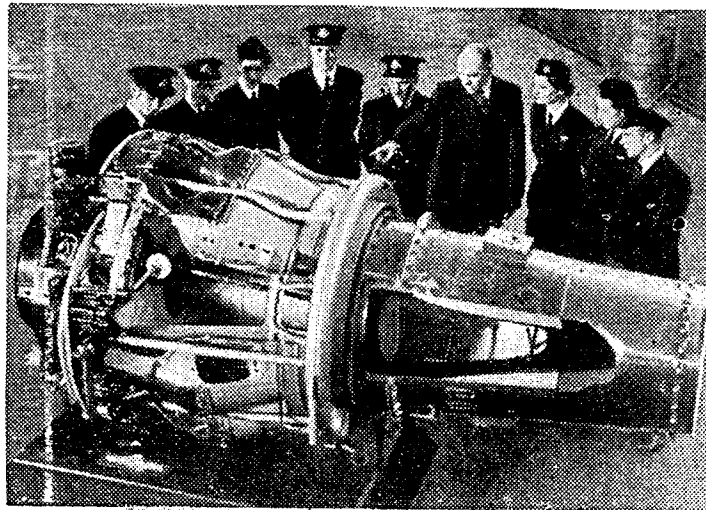
Britain's time-machine . . . to South Africa in a day



Stairway to the skies—a stewardess checks her list as the passengers embark on a Comet



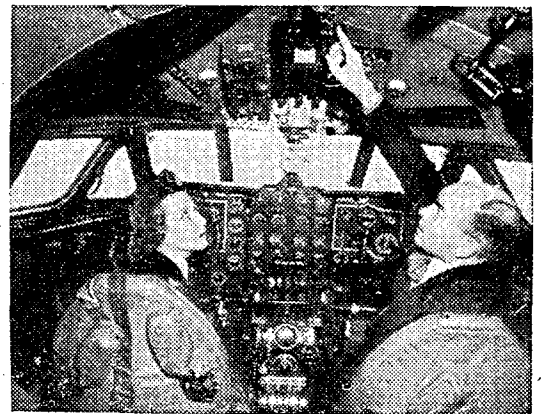
A head-on view of the Comet, showing the air-intakes of the four jet engines



Flight Crews studying a sectioned Ghost turbojet



Passengers at their ease high above the clouds in the pressurised cabin of a Comet



Features of the Flight Deck are pointed out to a stewardess

Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House
Whitefriars · London · EC4

MAY 3.....1952

TELEVISION AND YOU

MAN'S greatest inventions and discoveries inevitably create fresh problems. Television is certainly no exception, and its impact on the life of the nation has been the subject of a special BBC inquiry.

In the case of young people it seems that TV often keeps boys and girls of 12 to 14 from their beds, and that 15-year-olds are even less able to tear themselves away from it.

Their interest in other recreations, like that of their parents, has diminished. Of the viewers questioned in the inquiry, 42 per cent said that they read less, 30 per cent spent less time on hobbies, and 50 per cent played fewer indoor games.

We think that it is as a new toy that television is causing such preoccupation. It was the same in the early years of radio. Home life revolved round the new marvel. But when the novelty has worn off, television will take a more proportionate place in our lives. We can have too much of a good thing, and shall learn to switch off the TV just as we do the wireless.

A temperate use of television will prove to be a boon and a blessing to mankind.

JUST AN IDEA

As Samuel Smiles wrote: He that does his best whatever his lot in life may be, is on the sure road of advancement.

Under the Editor's Table

A man said he built his bungalow with friends. They must have been bricks.

A tenth of the adult male population in Britain is engaged in road transport. Men who will go far.

Top Cyclists to Compete at Brighton, says a news heading. Out for a spin.

Smuggling goes on by air. Not by underground methods.

BILLY BEETLE



FLOWERS AMID THE SMOKE

To bring beauty into dark corners, to make flowers bloom over busy streets—that is the noble aim of the London Gardens Society. It wants to help every Londoner to have a blossoming nook, be it ever so small.

That the society has had a measure of success is shown in its latest annual report.

One of its beneficent activities last year was to give 10,000 plants to old people; and how much they have been appreciated is reflected in a letter: "I do wish you could have seen the old folk clutching their pots, delighted with the plants."

The society needs the help of all who are anxious to make London beautiful. Its address is 20 Buckingham Street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

Another Mayflower

ON May 1 the B.O.A.C. begins its Mayflower service across the Atlantic to cater for those who cannot afford the usual fares.

At eightpence a mile for 3500 miles the journey is still expensive. But the new Mayflower is the herald of an era in which air-travel will be within reach of every man.

A Mayflower airliner will carry 68 passengers as against her famous namesake's 102, but her crossing will take only 18 hours as against the Fathers' stormy 63 days in 1620.

The old Mayflower was a break with the Old World, but the flying Mayflower will strengthen the bonds of friendship between the English-speaking nations, and widen the community of freedom.

Air travel makes the world a neighbourhood, and it will play an increasing part in bringing the scattered nations together into one family.

PETER PUCK WANTS TO KNOW

If people in the pink ever feel blue

There is nothing like a cup of tea, says a speaker. Except another cup of tea.

There is no sleeping accommodation for M.P.s at the House of Commons. Except on the benches.

The Editor's Table

The law and the ass

THE Chief Justice of New Zealand stated recently that people who steal cars may be sent to prison for as long as two years, whereas the maximum penalty for stealing an ass or a mule is 14 years' imprisonment. Seven motor-cars would therefore seem to equal one donkey in New Zealand.

Actually it would be difficult to steal a donkey in that Dominion. Only a few are to be seen there, and their use as beasts of burden is practically restricted to zoos and fairs. Mules have never been used in New Zealand.

Stork monument



The familiar old legend that babies are carried to their new homes by the stork is the inspiration for this monument erected in a children's playground among the ruins in the American sector of Berlin.

Thirty Years Ago

A GROWN-UP newspaper publishes a Plea for the Backward Races. Someone in Central Africa ought to set about an Apology for Forward Races.

If an angel appeared on the earth and lined up all the nations for a final race to the goal of Human Evolution, which of us would start scratch? Those who call themselves Great Powers might find it awkward to answer the question, "What are you doing with your power?" Great Powers, you have Great Responsibilities.

From the Children's Newspaper, May 6, 1922

TO THE HAWTHORN

May! queen of blossoms,
And fulfilling flowers,
With what pretty music
Shall we charm the hours?
Wilt thou have pipe and reed,
Blown in the open mead?
Or to the lute give heed
In the green bowers?

Thou hast no need of us,
Or pipe or wire;
Thou hast the golden bee
Ripened with fire;
And many thousand more
Songsters, that thee adore,
Filling earth's grassy floor
With new desire.

Edward Lord Thurlow

MUCH GOOD WORK IN BRIEF

MUCH of the good work of the United Nations is hidden behind strange abbreviations.

In war-ravaged Korea farmers are thankful for the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea (Uncurk) and the United Nations Civil Assistance Command, Korea (Uncack).

Many farmers have had their crops destroyed three times as the tide of war has flowed to and fro; but now that the Panmunjom truce talks have stabilised the front, these undaunted South Koreans are returning to their devastated lands.

Uncurk is supplying them with otherwise unobtainable seeds. Uncack is offering them, at special cheap rates, Berkshire pigs, Holstein cows, and White Leghorn chicks.

Thanks to this assistance, the Korean farmers are earning golden opinions from United Nations experts, one of whom recently wrote: "The Korean farmer is persevering and tenacious—what he has accomplished in the face of this war proves that—and he'll rank with any farmer in the world."

Parson's prowess

A VICAR in 1952 must be a preacher, visitor, and organiser, good with men, good with women, and good with children; be something of a musician and businessman, firm but gentle, strong and tactful, able to cheer the sick and handle difficult members of his congregation; have the strength of an ox, the tenacity of a bulldog, the daring of a lion, the meekness of a lamb, the hide of a rhinoceros, the heroism of a martyr.

This catalogue of the qualities needed by the ideal parson is given by a Sussex vicar, the Revd. Ernest Streete, in his parish magazine. And he adds, modestly: "Can you see a likeness of the present Vicar of Beeding. I can't."

THINGS SAID

THE more the artist is imbued with religion the better is he prepared to speak the language of art, to understand its harmonies, and to communicate its impulses.

The Pope

WE are told Britain has lost her craftsmanship and we are just machine-minders. But we have beautiful craftsmen: the machine-tool-makers.

Sir Peter Bennett, M.P.

IN the old days teachers talked to children. Nowadays the children talk to the teacher. That is what makes it so exhausting.

Miss W. Cleary,
Teachers' Conference

THE important thing which the Commonwealth has, and which no amount of organisation could replace, is the will to work together.

Lord Ismay

Boys and girls want books of quality and substance to match the growth of their own powers.

Minister of Education

WHATEVER Government is in power, one thing is certain: Britain has a difficult road to travel. Governments can do much to help or retard production, but it is upon the efforts of everyone that ultimate prosperity depends.

Mr. W. Coldrick, M.P.

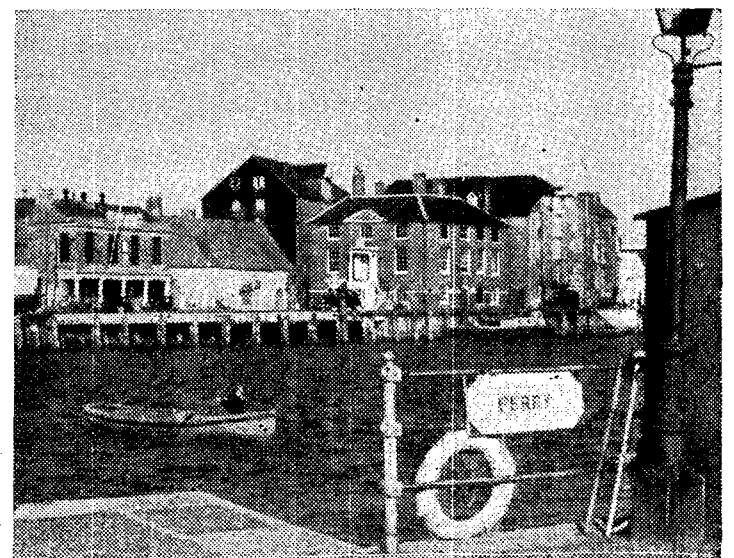
IN THE COUNTRY

DURING "flowery-kirtled May" there are new wonders to be admired, new discoveries to be made. Each morning on our walks we can note some fresh truth, some renewed miracle taking place.

In these days when "hill and vale with joy and fragrance teem," so rich with golden buttercups are the water-meadows that they shower gold-dust upon the rambler's shoes.

"All the sweetness of the earth, all the life that the falling rain from the sky gives, the essence of the refreshing breezes, the buttercups take secretly to themselves, in their own good time—and lo! it is turned to gold."

Never are fields lovelier than during this fleeting season when the butter flowers enrich the green so abundantly. As Richard Jefferies says: "Nature's extravagance is sublime."



OUR HOMELAND

The harbour at Poole in Dorset

The Children's Newspaper, May 3, 1952

ERIC GILLET, the CN Film Critic, on a first-class thriller

JAMES MASON AS A SPARE-TIME SPY

ONE of the oddest of all spy stories of the last war—and there were some very curious ones—was told in a book called Operation Cicero by L. C. Moyzisch, a former German attaché. Now Twentieth Century-Fox have made it into a film and renamed it Five Fingers.

When asked why they had chosen this title, the studio replied that it was felt that the average cinema-goer had not heard of the great Roman orator. Tests were made in America and the "man in the street" seemed to think that Operation Cicero must be a picture about gangsters operating in the rising town of Cicero, Illinois.

The producers then changed the title to Five Fingers, indicating that this symbolised greed.

During the war Diello, an Albanian valet in the service of the British Ambassador to Turkey, managed to open the Embassy safe containing all the top-secret war documents. He photographed them carefully and sold a selection of them to Herr Moyzisch of the Germany Embassy for £20,000.

TRAITOR VALET

Diello refused to reveal his identity, and the Germans named him Cicero. It was the first of many deals between them.

In real life the valet was a scruffy, middle-aged Albanian with five children. In Five Fingers he is James Mason, who gives a most entertaining performance as the very smooth traitor. He makes £130,000 by his spying—and also, as he thinks, wins the love of the beautiful Countess Anna Staviski (Danielle Darrieux), a Polish lady, who was the widow of Diello's former employer.

Five Fingers is a most polished and amusing thriller, one of the best that I have seen for a long time. Joseph L. Mankiewicz has directed it with the lightest of touches, and he is specially happy in dealing with the German Embassy at Ankara when the notorious Von Papen was in charge of it.

John Wengraf endows Papen with charm and a kind of dry humour that are very engaging.

He is depicted as a man of intelligence who suspects the ability of the German generals; and in this film he is shown to have been right in doing so.

Diello sold 35 important secrets to the Germans and they never acted on one of them, even though some of the information was of the dates of projected Allied air raids on important objectives in Europe. One document gave details of a Lancaster raid on the Ploesti oil fields, but the Germans did not warn the Rumanians and the raid took place, setting the oil wells ablaze and causing tremendous damage.



James Mason in a tense moment from Five Fingers, as he photographs secret documents

The closing sequences manage to be exciting and amusing at the same time. General Kaltenbrunner, who detested Von Papen, sent Colonel Von Richter to Ankara to find out if Cicero was supplying genuine information and how he managed to get hold of it.

At the same time Diello had his own plans for the future. By playing off the British against the Germans it seemed that he had secured his future, but even in the best-laid plans there can be a loophole that opens on to failure and disappointment, and there was one here.

The end of Five Fingers is one of the best things in a consistently ingenious and unexpected picture.

SPEAKING OF CRICKET

By Rex Alston, the distinguished radio commentator

THE arrival of the Indian cricketers for their second tour since the war gives us an opportunity to think about our prospects this summer—and next. Without in any way being disrespectful to our visitors, I am sure most of us will look upon the coming series of Test matches as a preparation for the contests with the Australians next year.

Our first problem, now that F. R. Brown has announced his retirement from international cricket, is to find a new captain. The choice is extremely limited, as few men can now afford to play as amateurs, and still fewer professionals have had any experience of captaining a side.

The most experienced player is Len Hutton, but great players do not always make good captains, and Hutton has enough to do as England's No. 1 batsman without having the extra responsibility of captaincy on his mind.

I think we shall find the selectors turning to one who has experience of leading a county side—men like W. Wooller of Glamorgan, C. H. Palmer of Leicester, or N. D. Howard of Lancashire. Good captaincy can win matches just as often as centuries and hat-tricks, and we must pick the best man for the job.

Most of our great men—Hutton, Bedser, Evans, Compton, Simpson, and Bailey—will all have benefited from a winter's rest, and will certainly form the nucleus of our Test team. None of them is old enough to be called a veteran, yet they have a wealth of experience behind them which the Indians will have difficulty in matching.

KNOCKING AT THE DOOR

Add to them that fine young batsman P. B. H. May, the neat Yorkshireman Watson, the sturdy Lancastrian Ikin, and some of those who have been gaining experience last winter in India, both of Test cricket and of our visitors—men like Statham, Hilton, and Tattersall of Lancashire, Lowson of Yorkshire, Graveney of Gloucester, and Shackleton of Hampshire, all of whom have already been capped in this country.

Then, knocking at the door will be Appleyard, the young Yorkshireman who took 200 wickets in his first full season, and another Yorkshireman, Close, who, with the Cambridge Blues D. S. Shep-

pard and J. Warr, toured Australia under F. R. Brown without much success, but have since advanced in skill and experience.

This is an impressive list of talent, and our selectors ought to be able to choose a good side from it.

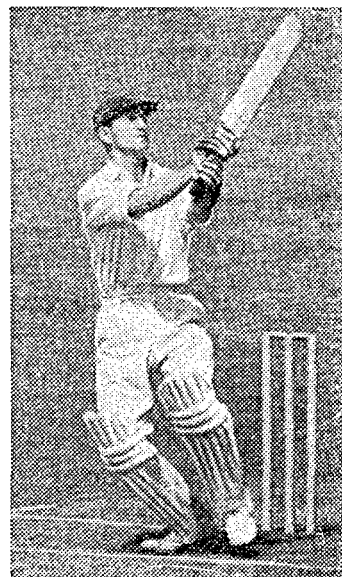
There will be four Test matches of five days each—at Lord's, the Oval, Old Trafford, and Headingley. This will be the first time that the Indians have been granted more than three days per Test and more than three Tests per rubber, and I hope we shall have good games.

Very much the same side only succeeded in drawing the recent series of matches in India against M.C.C., and some of the play seems to have been rather dull. Let us hope their captain, V. S. Hazare, will persuade his batsmen to be more adventurous on English wickets.

COUNTY PROSPECTS

Now a word about the County sides. I expect to see Warwickshire well in the running for the championship again. They have an extremely well-balanced team, with bowling for every type of wicket, plenty of batting, and an admirable team-spirit, inspired and fostered by their professional captain Tom Dollery, who has made a success of his job because he has grown up with the team and has won their respect. There is far more in captaincy than just changing the bowling and writing out the batting order, and Dollery seems to have just the right qualities of leadership.

Lancashire and Yorkshire are sure to chase the champions hard, and if it were not for the claims of Test matches, which will deprive them of leading players, I would back one or other of them to be this season's champions. What a splendid Test team could be picked from these two counties alone—Hutton, Washbrook, Lowson, Ikin, Watson, N. W. D. Yardley, Close, Tattersall, Hilton,



Len Hutton—will he be England's next Captain?

Statham, and D. V. Brennan—Test match players all.

In the south, Middlesex will be led in turn by W. J. Edrich and Denis Compton, and these two, with Robertson, will have to make most of the runs. In the past Middlesex have relied on many fine amateur players, but these are no longer forthcoming, and the reserve professional talent is not yet up to the old standard.

Surrey should be another strong side under their new captain, fast bowler W. S. Surridge, and if Eric Bedser can find his best form with the bat and also keep a length with his off-spinners to help his brother and Laker, they will take some holding.

These counties should be the season's Big Five, and I hope they will set an example of attractive cricket which will bring the crowds rolling in and make 1952 a bumper summer.

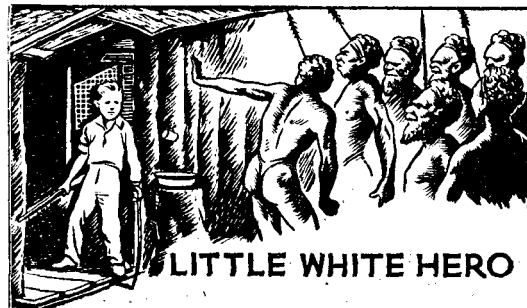
BELL OF MYSTERY

Day after day the sound of a bell fell on the ears of the villagers of East Coker, Somerset. The sound mystified them all, for it was not the church bell, and they knew of no other.

The mystery was solved when a man heard the bell ring while he was passing the old almshouses, and on looking up saw a jackdaw fly from one of the chimneys.

Closer investigation revealed the mystery bell inside the chimney and, beneath it, a half-built nest.

Empire Mosaic—6

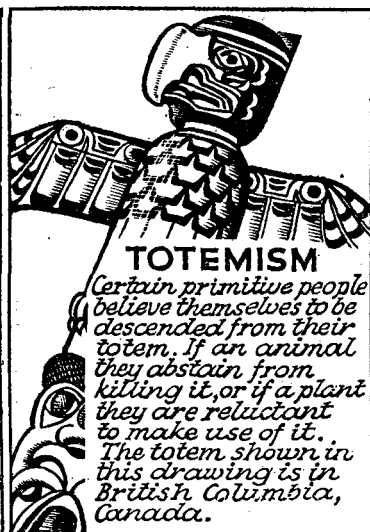


LITTLE WHITE HERO

In South Australia, in 1840, an eleven-year-old English boy with a gun and a sword held dozens of blackfellows at bay for five hours, eventually dispersing them. Though mortally wounded he continued to guard his home until his brother arrived many hours later.

ROMANCE OF PEPPER

The ancient trade in pepper and other spices originally followed an overland route to Europe. In 1486 Bartholomew Diaz, a Portuguese, was blown round the Cape in a storm. This led to the finding of a sea route to the Indies, whereby pepper and spices could be shipped to the West.

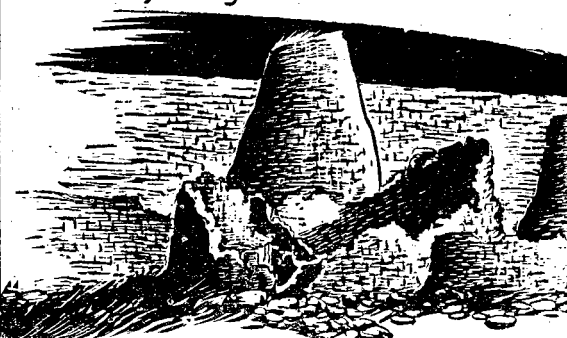


TOTEMISM

Certain primitive people believe themselves to be descended from their totem. If an animal they abstain from killing it, or if a plant they are reluctant to make use of it. The totem shown in this drawing is in British Columbia, Canada.

ZIMBABWE RUINS

Is modern Rhodesia ancient Ophir? There are many theories concerning these mysterious ruins. One is that they are only a few hundred years old, another, that this temple fortress was the centre which supplied the wealth of King Solomon.



by Ridgway

DR. LIVINGSTONE'S NOTEBOOKS

Livingstone's birthplace at Blantyre, Lanarkshire, has received a windfall in the shape of a collection of diaries and other records made during his expeditions into Darkest Africa, 1858-1863 and 1866-1873. They had lain undisturbed in an Edinburgh attic for many years.

Of special interest are a large number of notebooks with day-to-day accounts of Livingstone's last journey, recording briefly but vividly the explorer's first impressions, and illustrated with tiny drawings and small-scale maps. Flowers and leaves collected during the journeys are also pressed between the pages, and in some cases the pencils are still attached.

It was from these hastily-made, on-the-spot records that Livingstone prepared his fuller accounts of his explorations. The short notes were re-written and expanded when he transferred them to large, strongly-bound books about as big as a family Bible. He always carried one of these larger books on his expeditions, and three are known to exist today.

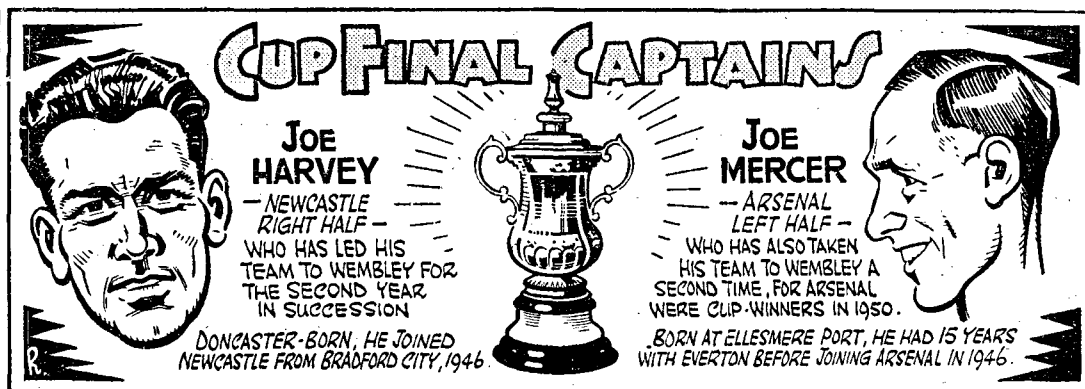
After Livingstone's death most of his papers were distributed among his relatives, and the notebooks now on show at Blantyre have been sent to the museum by one of his descendants.

SALVAGE PAYS

A big chemical firm at Beeston, Nottingham, salvages every year five million cartons, 50 million cardboard sleeves, half a million fibre-board boxes, and five million cardboard divisions.

These figures were given when the Regional Industrial Recovery Advisory Council visited the works.

In addition, tens of thousands of bottles, drums, and tins are recovered every year. The salvage department of the works uses modern conveyor systems and provides a continuous source of packaging material which can be used again.



GALLANT GUIDES WIN A WORLD TROPHY

Some Indian schoolgirls who for eight days worked unceasingly in relays to succour people injured in a train disaster, have won a new world trophy awarded for an outstanding achievement by a group of Rangers or Guides.

Their reward is the Walter Donald Ross (Vancouver, B.C.) Perpetual Trophy presented to the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts by a Canadian well-wisher; and they are the first to win it.

The Indian girls belong to St. Mary's School, Deogarh, Bihar, and the train crash occurred near their school last year when the Punjab Mail from Calcutta plunged down an embankment in the dark.

The girls knew nothing about the disaster until next morning, when they heard that injured and dying people covered the floors of the wards and verandas in the local hospital, as well of the Boys' High School.

The Guiders, Guides, and Cadets

STRAIGHT TO THE GREAT LAKES

A direct service by a British ship from this country to ports on the Great Lakes has been started for the first time. The vessel is the Manchester Pioneer, and it has been constructed to take a considerable cargo across the Atlantic and then to navigate the St. Lawrence canals where the draught must not exceed 14 feet.

of St. Mary's immediately went forth to help. Terrible sights confronted them, but they kept cool.

That day was an ordeal for all concerned, but the girls of St. Mary's slogged on, doing all they could; some of them remained until two or three the next morning.

The following day more help came; but the services of volunteers were still urgently needed, and this created a problem for the Guides of St. Mary's. Their half-yearly examinations were due to begin, and could not be missed without a serious setback in their education. Gallantly, they decided to do their exams and help the injured.

TAKING IT IN TURNS

They were formed into groups which took turns in doing three hours' work at the hospital, one group relieving another which went off to carry on with exams!

At the hospital the Guides helped to wash, feed, and massage the patients, wrote letters for them, comforted them, and fanned them to keep away the flies—for the weather was hot and there were no electric fans.

So for the last eight days of their term, life was pretty tough for these self-sacrificing girls, but they kept at it. One terribly injured man whispered: "I have never seen or heard of such loving kindness as I have seen here."

By the end of the term most of the patients had been transferred to

other hospitals, and the Guides, without realising it, had well earned the Walter Donald Ross Trophy.

Several groups of Girl Guides in other lands came near to winning the award. There was a group in Greece who camped in a war-devastated village and helped the inhabitants in many ways. There were some French Rangers who worked in a hospital for children suffering from infantile paralysis. There were Italian Guides who have given themselves the kindly task of searching for the graves of German soldiers and sending the information to Guides in Germany.

In the Philippines there were some Girl Scouts of Manila who came across a homeless family—a sick grandfather, his daughter, and her three children—and found them a temporary home, bought them rations each week, and finally, with the help of the Troop Committee, raised money to build them a house.

What a noble record it all is!

SCHOOLGIRLS SAVE HORSE

Six hundred girls of Parkside Secondary School, Brixton, South London, gave up their pocket money to save an old railway horse from the slaughterer's yard.

Renamed Lucky, the horse will spend the rest of his days on a Kent farm, and there these kind-hearted girls will be able to visit him.

The Childrer's Newspaper, May 3, 1952

CARS AND SHIPS OF OTHER DAYS

Palace House at Beaulieu, Hampshire, has recently been opened to the public, mainly as a maritime and motor-car museum.

Once the gatehouse of an abbey, it is the home of the third Baron Montagu of Beaulieu, whose father was a famous pioneer motorist, and the exhibits include trophies, mascots, medals—and five veteran cars, dating back to 1895!

Perhaps the most interesting souvenir, however, is a summons issued against Lord Montagu in 1902 for "driving a light locomotive on the Winchester Road at a speed in excess of 12 miles an hour." He was fined £5.

The new museum is also a reminder that the district was once famed for its ships. Many of Old England's wooden walls were fashioned of good oak from the New Forest; over 70 vessels for the Royal Navy were launched at nearby Buckler's Hard between 1698 and 1825.

Five of these trusty vessels were at Trafalgar, and in the new museum is a handsome model of the Agamemnon, the ship in which Nelson was serving when he lost his eye at the siege of Calvi.

Here, also, is the page of the log of H.M.S. Euryalis, recording the famous signal "England expects . . ."

JUNIOR MEMBERS

When the British Association holds its annual meeting in Belfast in September, pupils in the Fifth and Sixth Forms of schools there will be able to become juvenile members on payment of 10s.

They will be excused lessons during September 3 to 10 to attend lectures and to go on the free excursion which is available for older members of the Association.

There will also be afternoons off from school for younger children to attend a number of special lectures which are being arranged for them.

PICTURE-STORY OF CAPTAIN COOK'S FIRST VOYAGE TO THE PACIFIC (3)



Shortly after the Tahitians had departed from the ship, Lieutenant Cook looked in one of the cases of scientific instruments and found that the precious quadrant, so important for the astronomical calculations necessary to observe the transit of Venus, had disappeared. One of the natives, with whom Cook had been at such pains to establish friendly relations, must have made off with the quadrant. Mr. Banks was astonished and angry at such a serious loss.



The Tabitians were so adroit at this game that once they stole Cook's stockings from under his pillow in his cabin without his knowledge, although he admitted that he had not been asleep! A search party was sent off from the Endeavour to find the quadrant.



Luckily, Lieutenant Cook and his party soon found the natives, who were curiously taking the quadrant apart and distributing the parts among their friends. The instrument was retrieved and put together again. On the whole, the natives proved most friendly and intelligent, and spare time was spent in feasting and in sports, especially wrestling, at which the Tahitians were adept.



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Cook sets sail for the "Southern Continent" and finds . . . See next week's instalment

MONDAY *Thrills and mystery on the river*

ADVENTURE

by John Pudney

Exploring a Thames backwater leading to Blackmead Abbey, now a film studio, Fred and I met an American girl, Annabel, who said her father was a prisoner there. Later, from the main road, we saw a pair of hands gripping iron bars in the Abbey gatehouse window.

4. Mystery of the fish

FRED and I threw caution to the winds and shouted.

"Who is it there?" we called. "Do you want to get out? Why don't you answer? Can we help you?" There was no answer, but the hands on the bars went on twisting and turning. We kept up the shouting until a voice came from the road behind us: "Hey, there! What do you think you're up to?"

We turned and faced a policeman, sitting astride his bicycle with one foot on the grass verge.

"There's somebody up at that window! A prisoner..." we were explaining, running across the road. But the policeman only snorted.

"Those two lodges have been empty ever since I was a boy at Braystoke School, and the old turret chamber over the arch hasn't been occupied for hundreds of years," he said. "Now, you two, run along and stop shouting."

"But come and have a look for yourself, constable."

He propped up his bike and walked over the grass with us. There was, of course, no sign of the two hands. Fred began to call out again, but the policeman said, "That's quite enough of that. You'll frighten people, young man."

Just to make sure that we did as we were told, he accompanied us a little way up the road. He asked us where we were staying and took a great interest in the Bounty and Uncle George, particularly when he heard that Uncle George was a friend of the vicar of Braystoke. He said goodbye where the Blackmead Abbey wall left the road. At this point there was a side lane guarded by a gate and a watchman's hut plastered with notices warning people to keep out and stating that this was the only entrance to Blackmead Abbey Film Studio.

As we followed his directions toward Braystoke, we almost began to believe that the policeman was right and we had both fancied we had seen something which was not there.

At Braystoke, there was quite a commotion about the meeting of the Angling Society, which was held in a hall near the church. There was even a smell of fish about the place; and we discovered why when we peeped through the curtains and saw that Uncle George and the vicar were sitting at the small table piled with fish of all shapes and sizes.

We listened long enough to learn that the anglers were upset because the fish had been found dead, floating on the surface of the river. Then we got bored, and went to look at the cars parked outside the hall. The one which really took our fancy was a copper-coloured Rolls Royce.

When Uncle George came out of the meeting, carrying a large fish, he was with the owner of the Rolls. "These wretched boys," he said, introducing us, "have managed to mess up the transmission of our boat. This," he went on, waving towards the owner of the car, "is Mr. Max Neman, who, according to the vicar, has been a good friend to the Angling Society."

Mr. Neman nodded to us and tried to look friendly, and then turned to Uncle George. "And where's your boat tied up, may I ask?" he said.

Uncle George explained, and Mr. Neman offered us a lift back in the Rolls. On the way he and Uncle George talked about "pollution of rivers"—which meant, Fred and I guessed, whatever it was that was causing the fish to die. This went on until we were put down outside the Ferry Inn, the nearest point to our mooring.

It was only when we had gone nearly halfway along the edge of the cornfield towards the Bounty that Uncle George remembered the fish he had been carrying. "Have you got it?" he asked, turning to us.

"Of course not, Uncle George. We never touched it."

"But Mr. Neman said he was putting it in the back of the car. Didn't he give it to one of you?"

"He never said a word."

"That's funny. We were talking about it most of the way back. It's a hoke, very rare and outsize, too. He must have gone off with

it... Yet I didn't see it anywhere in the front of the car."

"Perhaps we can get it back from him tomorrow," said Fred. "Do you know where he lives?"

"Blackmead Abbey," said Uncle George, not accepting our offer, and not turning it down.

Fred whistled softly and nudged me, but we went on walking towards the Bounty in silence. What a chance we had missed in riding home with a man who actually came from Blackmead Abbey! We were pledged to secrecy about Annabel and the events of the backwater, but we could at least have asked a few questions about the "king" we had seen in the drive. We might even have risked a question about the hands which we may or may not have seen gripping the barred window.

When the lights were on in the cabin and we were getting ready to turn in, Uncle George told us a little more.

"He's the boss of the Blackmead Abbey film set-up, this Mr. Max Neman. He's said to be a specialist in historical films: that's why he bought Blackmead Abbey."

"How does he come to be so interested in fishing, Uncle George?"

"The vicar says that when Neman got to hear that the Angling Society was in trouble, he made several generous offers to restock the waters round here."

"But what's the matter with the fish here?"

"Simply that a lot of them have taken it into their heads to die on their own account without being fished out. Nobody quite knows why. The experts can't find any form of disease which might be carrying them off. That's why I came away with that outsize hoke. I thought I might slip back to the laboratory at Fort X and have a look at it under the microscope."

"WOULDN'T any other fish do, Uncle George?"

"Apart from it being so rare, the point about the hoke, as I was explaining to that fellow Neman, is that it has certain organs which respond particularly well to the sort of examination I have in mind."

"Can it have anything to do with the river, say in a backwater, suddenly bubbling and boiling..." I began, and immediately received a hack from Fred under the table.

"You've probably seen a few eddies, or some of the natural gases bubbling up to the surface, which they often do in the summer," said Uncle George, without waiting for me to go on with my theory.

"But if the fish get killed off in waves from time to time, why did Mr. Neman re-stock the river?" Fred neatly changed the subject.

"He's a rich man, and I gather from the vicar that he's genuinely trying to support local good works."

"Do the fish die in the part of the river upstream from Blackmead Abbey as well, Uncle George?" I asked.

"The Braystoke Angling Society's rights only begin about a quarter of a mile downstream from the Abbey, now I come to think of

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- ### YOUNG QUIZ
- 1 Who founded the Boy Scout movement?
 - 2 When was Mr. Churchill a prisoner-of-war?
 - 3 Which is the farther south: Land's End or St. Catherine's Point, Isle of Wight?
 - 4 What is a slalom race?
 - 5 Incidental means: extra, burnt, or casual?
 - 6 What is a philanthropist?
 - 7 Who said: "If I cannot live as a king I shall die like a gentleman"?
 - 8 Maoris are natives of the Belgian Congo, New Zealand, or Mongolia?

Answers on page 11

Continued on page 10

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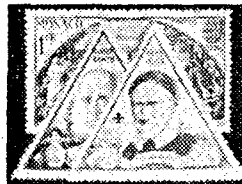
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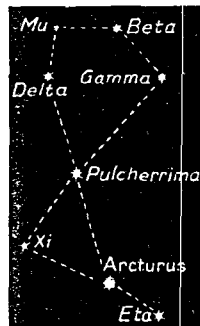
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STELLAR GRANDEUR OF THE CELESTIAL HERDSMAN

By the CN Astronomer

THE south-east sky now presents in the evening an array of starry splendour, with Mars its chief glory. The planet is now at his brightest and on May 8 will be at his nearest, 52 million miles away.

Mars is at present brighter than any other luminary, so there should be no mistaking him. But there is one very bright star high in the south-east which, owing to its yellowish hue, might be taken for Mars earlier in the evening. The planet is actually some distance to the south of this star.



It is Alpha Boötis, or Arcturus, the chief star in the constellation Boötes (pronounced Bo-o-tees). The constellation dates from Chaldean times, at least 8000 years ago, when herdsmen were important people.

That Boötes is a herdsman is indicated by the Greek derivation of its title, Bo being from the Greek *bous*, meaning an ox. In Greek, too, Arcturus means the guardian against the bear.

GIANT SUN

We know Arcturus to be one of the "giant" type of suns, which accounts for its deep yellowish hue. It has a diameter about 27 times greater than our Sun, or nearly 23 million miles; but Arcturus radiates only about 100 times more heat and light than our Sun, notwithstanding its much greater surface.

Arcturus has, in fact, an average surface temperature of only 4100 degrees centigrade, compared with about 6000 degrees average surface temperature of our Sun. It is 41 light-years' distant.

The great solar systems of Boötes are of much interest, that of Pulcherrima being one of the most beautiful. Viewed through a telescope of only three-inch aperture it is seen to be composed of two stars. One is a great golden-hued sun which radiates about 140 times more light and heat than our Sun. It is similar to Arcturus, but has a much smaller companion which is blue and radiates only about 15 times more light and heat than our Sun. These are about 142 light-years distant.

Delta, which appears not far from overhead, is at a distance of 105 light-years and is also composed of two suns.

ANOTHER SUN AND EARTH

Eta, another third magnitude star, is a sun very similar to ours, with a much smaller "planetary" sun revolving round it in 497 days at an average distance of only 72 million miles. This world-in-the-making has, therefore, an orbit very similar to that of our world in its journey round the Sun.

The star Xi is also composed of two suns, the smaller one revolving round the other in 160 years—obviously another world-in-the-making.

The star Mu is, however, composed of three suns. Two of them, relatively close together, are somewhat larger than our Sun, and take 224 years to revolve in an immense orbit round the much greater and more massive central sun.

UNSEEN WORLDS

There are doubtless other bodies attached to these far-off solar systems which are too small to be perceived with present telescopic powers. So far the bright star Beta and the less bright Gamma, as well as Arcturus, have not revealed any.

Beta is at a distance of 142 light-years, and is so immense that it radiates 120 times more light than our Sun.
G. F. M.

Monday Adventure, by John Pudney

Continued from page 9

it. Then they extend five miles or more downstream."

"Shall we get another hoke for you to take back to Fort X?" asked Fred.

"Leave it till the morning and let me think this out," said Uncle George. "We can't leave here until I've seen to the engine, and, like a fool, I promised the committee I'd do a quick investigation before they meet the day after tomorrow. Now let's turn in."

IN the darkness of the forward cabin Fred and I held a whispered council of war.

"I wouldn't mind betting," Fred whispered, "that that upheaval in the backwater has something to do with the death of the fish—but you were an awful ass to say it."

"Seemed to me worth saying, Fred, even if we were sworn to secrecy about the backwater."

"We ought to keep that secret, whatever we do. We've a lot of facts now, and we can only find out how they add up when we meet Annabel tomorrow. One thing's certain, there's no danger now of our moving on upstream."

"If Uncle George takes a fish back to Fort X for examination, we shall probably be here for a day or two," I murmured.

Uncle George roared at us to be quiet. Then, just as I was going to sleep, Fred whispered once more: "Do you think that fellow Neman took the fish deliberately so that Uncle George couldn't examine it?"

"I suppose he did," I answered. "In fact, I'm so sure of it that I think you and I have got to break a few of our promises to Annabel and tell Uncle George in the morning something of what we know about Blackmead Abbey."

To be continued

The Children's Newspaper, May 3, 1952

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MAY DAY REVELS

Oldest of May Day customs is the dancing around the Maypole on the village green.

In Tudor times May 1 was a public holiday, and village folk decorated their houses and streets with flowers. The maypole round which the children weaved their gay ribbons was decked with garlands; the May Queen was crowned; and then the rest of the day was given over to revelry.

In some few places in England children still dance round the Maypole and perform old folk dances; and charming it is to see them on a sunny, warm afternoon in the sweet of the year.

Knutsford, Cheshire, still has its festival of the May Queen, and at Pangbourne in Berkshire Morris dancers give a performance in the High Street, just as their forebears did on May 1 centuries ago.

A more celebrated May morning celebration takes place at Oxford. People throng the streets at early morn, making for the famous Magdalen Tower, and just before six o'clock a flood of melody greets them. Choir boys on the top of the tower sing an anthem, and when the clock strikes six the bells peal out in joyous sound.

The origin of this ceremony is lost in the mists of antiquity, but whatever it may have been, the rite endures, as a writer says, as one of those "last enchantments of the Middle Ages" which make Oxford so attractive a city.

MODEL PLANE REPORTS ITS SPEED

A remarkable radio-controlled model aeroplane was demonstrated to radio experts at the Institution of Electrical Engineers recently.

The model, of eight-foot span, had separate controls for the ailerons, elevators, and engine, all of which worked independently of one another off the same radio equipment. A small accumulator drove a miniature motor generator in the model to provide power for the receiver.

On the wing of the model was a wind-driven fan. The faster the model flew the faster this fan revolved, and a tiny radio transmitter, scarcely larger than a matchbox, transmitted a signal corresponding to this particular speed back to the "pilot" on the ground.

Thus, besides having full control over the flight of the model, the remote pilot could also tell at a glance how fast the model was flying.

MICKEY IS STILL GOING STRONG

Mickey Rooney, who is in Bob Hope's new Paramount comedy, Military Policemen, began his acting career when he was a year old. He was a star at five, and was still breaking box-office records at 14.

At the age of 20 Mickey was told his career was finished, as he could no longer appear on the screen as a young boy. But he "came back" when he was 23, and was a director at 28. Now he is 31 and still going strong.

SPORTS SHORTS

D. GOBLE is one of the keenest of the Old Merchant Taylors Rugby team—and has proved it. In his first match this season he broke a wrist; in the second he broke several ribs; and when he turned out for the third time a few weeks ago he was carried off the field unconscious.

PLANS are being discussed for a team of eight Dutch swimmers to swim in relay from Lowestoft to Zandvoort in Holland. The distance is nearly 100 miles.

RECENT arrival in this country from Madras is 15-year-old R. Krishan, who is to spend the summer competing in many of our lawn tennis tournaments. He has won the Indian junior championship three times running.

MEMBERS of Mottingham Youth Club in Kent are busy making 17 canoes at their headquarters. When the canoes are completed they intend to cross the Channel in them.

SYDNEY SOWDEN, of Whitehaven (Cumberland) Grammar School, has a wonderful athletic record for a schoolboy. He has represented Cumberland at cricket, soccer, and Rugby Union. He has played for the Egremont Rugby League team, and is also on the books of Workington Reds soccer club as an amateur. Now he has been selected to play for the Great Britain Sea Cadets soccer side.

THE Indian cricketers begin their tour on Saturday at Worcester, where most tourists play their first match. When the Indians were last with us, in 1946, their match at Worcester, which they lost by 16 runs, was one of the most exciting of the tour. We wish them a happy season.

STAMP NEWS

LIBERIA has issued a set of eight pictorials honouring Jehudi Ashmun for his part in establishing the Liberian Republic. The stamps, all different, show Ashmun with other pioneers or with some significant aspect of his work.

TWO new Swedish stamps honour Olans Petri, one of the founders of the Protestant religion in Sweden some 400 years ago.

THE U.S. has a stamp commemorating the 125th anniversary of the Baltimore and Ohio Railway, the pioneer line of American railroads.

AN exhibition of sports stamps in Italy recently was itself marked by a special issue.

A BRITISH 6d. Edward VII stamp, overprinted "I.R. Official," has been sold for £800.

PLEASE SAVE PAPER

A serious paper shortage can be averted, but only if every scrap of waste is salvaged and re-pulped. Make yourself responsible on the home front, and persuade your friends to follow your example of collecting waste-paper for the local authority to collect.

THE Essex County Cricket Club recently launched one of the most ambitious coaching schemes the game has known. The county has been divided into 14 areas, and in each of these boys between the ages of 10 and 16 will be given free coaching by well-known cricketers. At the end of the season the most promising boys will be offered more advanced coaching.

NEW ZEALAND FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION hopes to send a soccer team to play clubs in Fiji, 1300 miles nearer the Equator. The team may also visit Tahiti, which is almost in the middle of the South Pacific but is now linked with New Zealand and Fiji by flying-boats.

DAPHNE WILKINSON, Britain's 20-year-old swimming hope for the Olympic 400 metres event, estimates that when the trials for Helsinki begin in June she will have swum 300 miles since she began training for them.

FOR the first time ever, British amateur cyclists will take part in a 1200-miles road race in France. The riders will start from Caen next Sunday, and the race will last for 14 days. Two British teams will compete.

CYRIL PEACOCK, 22-year-old Tooting cyclist, recently became the first Englishman to win the £1000 Champion of Champions Trophy at Herne Hill. His achievement is all the more remarkable because he did it on a borrowed machine.

MILK makes you strong. So thinks Ken McDonald, the Australian weight-lifter, who daily drinks two gallons of milk as part of his training for the Olympic Games.

MOTOR COACH ON RAILS

The closing to passenger traffic of a railway line to Stratford-on-Avon, the old Midland Junction Railway, recalls an interesting experiment with a dual purpose coach once used on this line.

This was a motor-coach designed to travel both on the road and on rails. It was intended to enable passengers from London, especially Shakespeare Festival visitors, to get quickly right into the town.

The coach was known as a Ro-Railer, and when it arrived at Stratford Old Town Station it was run onto a ramp and rubber-tired wheels were lowered so that it could proceed along the roads. At the same time its iron wheels were drawn up.

The railway also had a place in history as the first in this country to have electrically-lighted carriages.

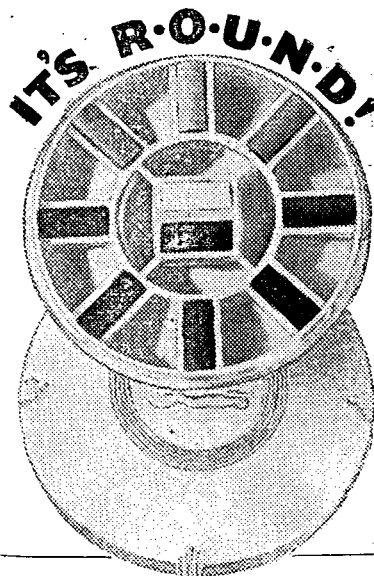
YOUNG QUIZ—answers

- 1 Lord Baden-Powell.
- 2 During the Boer War in 1899.
- 3 Land's End.
- 4 An obstacle race.
- 5 Casual.
- 6 A benefactor of mankind.
- 7 Charles the First.
- 8 New Zealand.

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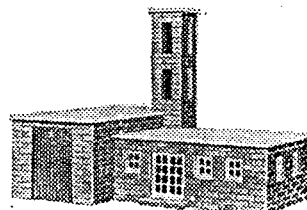
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THE BRAN TUB

NOT IN HIS LINE

"You must help me, doctor," said a patient one day. "I work like a horse and get as tired as a dog. Then I become as hungry as a wolf, and sleep like a bear. But in the morning I'm always as slow as a snail and as nervous as a kitten. As a result I'm getting as poor as a mouse."

"Sorry," said the doctor. "I can't do anything for you. Try the vet next door."

COUNTRYSIDE FLOWERS

THE yellow blossoms of greater or common celandine may be found in waste places and ruins. The hairy stems are very brittle, much branched, and straggling. At the end of the main flower stem are several short stalks, each bearing a single flower of four petals. The whole plant contains a poisonous, orange-coloured juice, used in the curing of warts. Greater celandine is a member of the poppy family, and quite unrelated to the lesser celandine of the buttercup family.



What am I?

You turn me up when in this world

You seek to find a certain place. Yet once, if legend be correct, I had a power of greater grace: I was the strongest of upholders. I held the world upon my shoulders.

Answer next week

BEDTIME CORNER

Billy takes a message

BILLY hurried from the garden into the house when he heard the telephone ringing, for he knew that his mother had gone shopping.

"Urban 2328," he announced boldly. It was Uncle Timothy, who on learning that Mummy was out asked Billy to give her a message.

"Right oh, Uncle," said Billy. "I won't forget."

But he did forget; and not until bedtime did he remember to tell Mummy that Uncle Timothy was coming on Saturday. "I think he said four o'clock."

After lunch on Saturday Billy went off to the woods to play with Paul, and it was nearly five when he arrived home again.

"What time did you say that Uncle Timothy was coming?" Mummy asked.

"Four o'clock," said Billy.

"Well, you were wrong, Billy," she said. "It was two o'clock. He had two spare tickets for the opening County cricket match and was going to take Daddy and yourself. He wanted it to be a surprise; but now you've missed him."

And the next time Billy takes a telephone message he will take care to get it right.

JACKO MAKES MERRY ON MAY DAY



May Day has arrived again, and Jacko and Chimp had made a wonderful May Pole in the garden. "We had better get in some practice," said Jacko. Soon they were joined by Baby and Bouncer, and round and round they whirled. Just then, Adolphus came out with some letters for Jacko to post. Failing to make himself heard above their shouts, he stepped into their midst and in a thrice he was bedecked with ribbons. "I've never seen anyone so wrapped up in a game," chuckled Jacko as he fled.

BIGGER AND BIGGER

"Do fishes grow very quickly?" asked young Albert, who had recently taken an interest in fishing.

"Oh, yes," replied his friend John. "My father once caught one that grows every time he talks about it."

Double meaning

The two missing words are pronounced the same, but have different meanings. What are they?

THE — moved slowly through the waves,
We hailed her with a shout.
Below, a dog was heard to —,
But no one seemed about.

barque, bark

Riddle-my-town

My first's in push but not in pull,

My next in loaded, not in full;

My third's in novel, not in book;

My fourth's in leer but not in look.

A shovel, not a spade, will hide

This town on Sussex's seaside.

Answer next week

RODDY



"Well, I thought that as it is a cold day, they had better have hot water."

CHAIN QUIZ

Solutions to the following clues are linked, the last two letters of the first answer being the first two of the second, and so on.

1. Winged, stinging insect of which 290 species are known in England; leads an industrious life, and is ruled by a queen.

2. State of ancient Greece renowned for the courage and endurance of its soldiers, brought up from early childhood under the most severe discipline.

3. Great London picture gallery, named after its founder, a 19th-century merchant; it has outstanding collection of pictures by British artists.

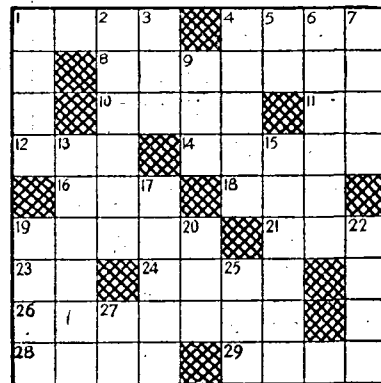
4. Ball-game with a history going back many centuries; its offspring, a 19th-century development, is a popular game for two or four players.

Answer next week

Crossword Puzzle

READING ACROSS. 1 Brave man. 4 He built an Ark. 8 Confirmed. 10 Side. 11 French for the. 12 One pair. 14 Braved. 16 Limb. 18 Name of several British rivers. 19 Snaps. 21 Canadian Pacific Railway. 23 Definite thing. 24 Annoy. 26 Draws. 28 Prepare for press. 29 Requests.

READING DOWN. 1 Warmth. 2 Quick answer. 3 Unit. 4 Wanderer. 5 Conjunction. 6 Every night you are this. 7 You have one on your shoulders. 9 Father. 13 Paused. 15 Niche in wall. 17 Excellence. 19 Wait. 20 Latin for so. 22 Disputes. 25 Lawn Tennis Association. 27 Greek letter P.



Answer next week

Early money

COINED money was used as long ago as 895 B.C. in the kingdom of Argos in Aegina, an island off the coast of Greece. The coins were silver and bore the figure of a turtle.

Paper money, too, is very old, having been used in China in 140 B.C., when Emperor Wu-ti ordered parchment notes made from white stag-skin to be issued.

CHANGE OF MIND

SAID an infuriated dentist to a policeman across the road: "Have you seen any small boys ringing my doorbell and then running away?"

"They weren't small boys, they were adults," replied the policeman.

Maxim to memorise

A LITTLE oil will ease a rusty lock; a little courtesy and kindness will make life run more smoothly.

FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

OTTERS' HOLTS. At the river's edge Don saw a long and slender greyish-brown animal, with short legs and thick, tapering tail. It slid into the water at his approach. For a moment its round flat head was visible, then it vanished entirely. "I saw an otter," Don told Farmer Gray excitedly.

"Perhaps it was one of the pair that had their home in the hollow tree," suggested the farmer.

"I thought otters' holts were always in river banks," said Don.

"Usually, but not always," Farmer Gray replied. "Some holts are snugly lined with grass and herbage. There are generally two exits, one above water and one below."


LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Riddle-my-town. Doncaster (anagram of "to dancers")


Chain Quiz. Negro, Rome, Mexico, Cobb

Riddle-in-rhyme. Robin Hood

April Thirds. Cervantes, Swinburne, Roosevelt, Betterton, Mussolini



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